licensing and there are no restrictions in setting up of new units or expansion of the existing units subject to the locational guidelines evolved by the Government.

796. [Translated to 4th March, 1993]

राज्यों को जनता कपड़े की सप्लाई

797. **श्री गोपालसिंह जी, सोलंकी:** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री 25 नवम्बर, 1992 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न सं० 481 के दिये गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने जनता-कपड़े को सस्ती दरों पर बेचने के लिए प्रबन्ध किया है; और

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि राज्यों को सप्लाई की गई जनता कपड़े की मात्रा उनकी मांग की तुलना में कम रही है, यदि हां तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

वस्त्र मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जी० वैंकटस्वामी): (क) जी हां।

(ख) जी नहीं, वस्तुतः ऐसी रिपोर्ट मिली हैं कि उपभोक्ता अभिकरणों द्वारा जनता कपड़े की कम खरीद की गई है।

Sick Textile Mills in Gujarat

798. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 489 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th November, 1992 and state:

(a) what is the number of textile mills that are sick and closed in Gujarat;

(b) what are the reasons for their closure; and

(c) what steps have been taken for their rehabilitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) As per information furnished by Board of Industrial Finance and Reconstruction (BIFR), there were 50 Mills of Gujarat registered with BIFR as on 31.1.93. There were 34 closed textile mills in Gujarat as on 31.12.92.

(b) The financial difficulty is the main reason for closure of mills.

(c) Govt. have set up a Nodal Agency/ Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction to evolve and Manage Rehabilitation package in respect of sick/ closed textile Mills.

गुजरात में हथकरघा-विकास

799. **श्री गोपालसिंह जी सोलंकी:** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गत दो वर्षों के दौरान गुजरात से हथकरघा के विकास के लिए प्राप्त प्रस्तावों की मदवार संख्या कितनी है; और

(ख) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान गुजरात में हथकरघा विकास के लिए वास्ताव में कितनी राशि स्वीकृत की गई है?

वस्त्र मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जी० वैंकट-स्वामी): (क) गत वर्षों के दौरान हथकरघों के आधुनिकीकरण, कार्यशाला-सह-आवास योजना, जनता कपड़ा योजना और विपणन विकास सहायता/विशेष छूट योजना आदि के संबंध में गुजरात राज्य सरकार से प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुये हैं।

(ख) गत तीन वर्षों में गुजरात राज्य को हथकरघों के विकास के लिए जारी की गई राशि इस प्रकार है:—

वर्ष	राशि लाखों में
1989-90	641.38
1990-91	634.24
1991-92	141.84

Ban on Import of Raw Silk

800. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Indian raw silk Industry has come of age both in regard to quality and quantum of raw stock produced to sustain handloom and powerloom silk industry;

(b) if so, what are the reasons which prevent the Government to impose a ban on import of raw silk which has a destablising effect on domestic production; and

(c) whether Government would consider allowing incentive bases participation by the private Corporate sector on the lines of investment boom witnessed in the aqua culture projects all over the country considering its high export earning potential.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) While silk production in the country has been growing steadily, the demand for silk both for the domestic as well as for the export sector has also grown. The quality of Indian silk has also improved but it is yet to come up to international standards.

Silk being on the Restricted list of Imports, cannot be imported except under a licence. Such licences are normally not issued. However, exporters are permitted to import raw silk under the Advance Licence Scheme to fulfil their raw material needs.

(c) Yes, Sir. Any proposals received would be considered on merits.

Deliberation at the meeting of manufacturers of Food stuff in Brussels

801. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India being a major supplier of jute sacks was represented at the meeting of the Manufacturers of Food Stuff held in Brussels in the last week of January, 1993 so as to obtain an order worth Rs. 100 crore for jute sacks;

(b) if so, what is the out come thereof; and

(c) if answer to part (a) above be in negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI. G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) India did not receive an official invitation to attend such a meeting.

12.00 Noon

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Report (1991-92) of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, New Delhi and related papers.

II. Report and Accounts (1991-92) of the Engineering Export Promotion Council, Calcutta and related papers.

III Report (1991-92) of the Rubber Board Kottayam (Kerala) and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMAD): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i)(a) Seventh Annual Report of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Authority.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in library. *See* No. L.T. 3409/93 for (a) to (c)]

(ii)(a) Thirty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Engineering Export Promotion Council, Calcutta, for the year 1991-92, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in library. *See* No. L.T. 3410/93 for (a) to (c)]

(iii)(a) Annual Report of the Rubber Board, Kottayam (Kerala), for the year 1991-92.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Board. [Placed in library. *See* No. L.T. 3408/93 for (a) and (b)]

[THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the chair*]

I. Report and Accounts (1991-92) of the Coal India Limited, Calcutta and related papers.